

Message Text

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42

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R 171028Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7110

INFO AMEMBSSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUTY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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SUBJECT: ISRAELI WASHINGTON-BASED PRESS ON
OUTCOME OF RABIN'S WASHINGTON VISIT

1. SUMMARY: WASHINGTON-BASED PRESS PRESENTS CONFLICTING
REPORTS REGARDING PROSPECTS FOR INTERIM GOE/GOI
SETTLEMENT. WHILE HAARETZ(MARGALIT) AND DAVAR(BARNEA)
HIGHLIGHT UNCERTAINTY OF REACHING A SETTLEMENT AND
EMPHASIZE THAT POSITIONS OF SIDES STILL REQUIRE CLARIFI-
CATIONS, MAARIV(SEGEV) QUOTES SOURCES IN WASHINGTON
THAT PM RABIN HAS ALREADY REACHED A SECRET AGREEMENT
WITH THE U.S. PM'S OFFICE HAS ISSUED DENIAL, CALLING SEGEV STORY " LIE
AND FABRICATION".

2. MAARIV(SEGEV), IN FRONTPAGE STORY WRITES THAT
"DESPITE PUBLIC WARNINGS THAT DIFFERENCE OF OPINION
ON THE MAIN ISSUES STILL EXIST BETWEEN ISRAEL AND
EGYPT--IT BECAME KNOWN THAT PM RABIN HAS REACHED A
SECRET AGREEMENT WITH THE US ACCORDING TO WHICH ISRAEL
IS TO WITHDRAW FROM THE MITLA AND GIDI PASSES AND THE
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ABU RODEIS OIL FIELDS IN RETURN FOR AN EGYPTAIN
COMMITMENT TO EXTEND UN FORCE MANDATE FOR THREE YEARS.
DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN WASHINGTON SAID ISRAEL AND US

DECIDED TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF " CAUTION" AND TO KEEP DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS SECRET, IN ORDER TO ENABLE PM RABIN TO OVERCOME POSSIBLE OPPOSITION ARGUMENTS AMONG HIS CABINET..." MAARIV STORY INCLUDES A DENIAL FROM PM'S OFFICE OF THE " SECRET AGREEMENT" REPORT, CALLING IT

" A LIE." MAARIVE REPORT CONTAINS DETAILS OF " SECRET AGREEMENT" CONCLUDING THAT PM BELIEVES THAT ISRAEL COULD NOT SAY NO TO PRESIDENTFORD AFTER SAYING NO TO KISSINGER IN MARCH " BECAUSE OF THE REPERCUSSIONS... ON US-ISRAEL RELATIONS IN FUTURE."

3. IN ANOTHER STORY MAARIV QUOTES WASHINGTON SOURCES AS SAYING THAT " ISRAEL DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE 'REASSESSMENT' HAS CAUSED ANY HARM--BUT A PROLONGED 'REASSESSMENT' MAY HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THEREFORE , AFTER A POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT HAS ALREADY BEEN WORKED OUT ON GENERAL LINES-- THE US AND ISRAEL REGARD THE RIFT BETWEEN THEM AS OVER. IT HAS BEEN LEARNED THAT US OFFICIALS HINTED TO PM RABIN THAT AFTER THE RE-ASSESSMENT IS COMPLETED AND THE STEP BY STEP APPROACH IS RESUMED AS EXPECTED, PRESIDENTFORD WILL ASK CONGRESS TO GRANT ISRAEL CONSIDERABLE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID. THE ONLY CONDITION IS THAT ISRAEL SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY FLEXIBLE IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE SIGNING OF ANOTHER INTERIM AGREEMENT UNDER US AUSPICES."

4. UNDER THE HEADLINE " A CERTAIN" DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE US ", HAARETZ(MARGALIT) REPORTS THAT AT THE END OF PM RABIN'S TALKS IN THE US " AMERICAN EXPERTS THINK THAT EGYPT COULD SHOW FLEXIBILITY IN TWO FIELDS ONLY: SIGNING AN AGREEMENT FOR THREE YEARS, PROVIDED ISRAEL CONTINUES DURING THIS PERIOD TO NEGOTIATE WITH OTHER ARAB STATES, AND A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE REGARDING THE ISRAELI DEMAND THAT MODERN INTELLIGENCE INSTALLATIONS...SHOULD REMAIN IN THEIR PRESENT LOCATIONS
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AND EGYPTIAN INSTALLATIONS WOULD BE ADDED TO THEM. A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DISAPPOINTMENT IS FELT IN WASHINGTON BECAUSE FOLLOWING THE TALKS WITH RABIN AND SADAT THE SITUATION IS STILL NOT CLEAR...THE AMERICANS DO NOT THINK THAT SADAT CAN AGREE THAT ANY ISRAELI FORCES SHOULD REMAIN AT THE PASSES. US AND ISRAELI CIRCLES SAID YESTERDAY(JUNE 16) THAT THERE IS A REASONABLE CHANCE FOR A SETTLEMENT, BUT NOT A PARTICULARLY GOOD CHANCE..."

5. DAVAR(BARNEA) REPORTS THAT ACCORDING TO AMERICAN

SOURCES, EGYPT WILL AGREE TO ALLOW ISRAEL TO MAINTAIN
POSITIONS IN ORDER TO OPERATE THE ELECTRONIC INSTALLATIONS.
" AS FOR THE DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT,
THE ADMINISTRATION IS CERTAIN THAT EGYPT WILL AGREE
TO A 3-5 YEAR PERIOD. THE MAIN PROBLEM IS THE
MANNER IN WHICH UNEF MANDATE IS TO BE EXTENDED..."

VELIOTES

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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